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BRYCE YOKOMIZO
Director

LISA NUÑEZ
Chief Deputy

County of Los Angeles
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES

12860 CROSSROADS PARKWAY SOUTH • CITY OF INDUSTRY, CALIFORNIA 91746
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August 24, 2006

TO: Each Supervisor

FROM: Bryce Yokomizo, Director
Department of Public Social Services

Bruce Chernof, MD
Director and Chief Medical Office
Department of Health Services

**SUBJECT: STATUS REPORT ON THE MEDICAL FIELD TRAINING FOR
CalWORKs PARTICIPANTS (BOARD ORDER #74-B – MARCH 7, 2006)**

This is to provide you with a status report on the Medical Field Training Program for CalWORKs participants.

On March 7, 2006, you instructed the Department of Public Social Services (DPSS) to work in concert with the Department of Health Services (DHS), the Los Angeles Community College District (LACCD), Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) and the Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE) to create a customized program in the medical field for CalWORKs participants that will lead to employment within DHS. Pursuant to your instructions, DHS and DPSS, along with the adult schools and community colleges, identified three positions to focus on: 1) Certified Nursing Attendant; 2) Pharmacy Technician; and 3) Hospital Custodian.

We are pleased to report that the initial phase of the Medical Field Training Program was implemented on August 15, 2006 with the beginning of the referral process for the Certified Nursing Attendant Program. DPSS' GAIN Services Workers are screening participants for likely candidates who are interested in the position and will refer them to the appropriate school in their area for training which will begin in September. The Certified Nursing Attendant training is offered by four schools in the LACCD system, ten LACOE Regional Occupational Program schools, and 16 LAUSD Adult Schools.

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective And Caring Service"

Each Supervisor
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The Hospital Custodian referral and training will begin in October 2006 and training will be provided at the East LA Skills Center.

The training for the Pharmacy Technician is currently on hold due to examination and re-certification requirements at DHS. Consideration is being given to require a national certification process, rather than the current State certification process.

We will provide our next report in February 2007, which will include the first actual employment figures for the program.

BY:BC:dy

c: Chief Administrative Officer
County Counsel
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
Chancellor, LACCD
Superintendent, LACOE
Assistant Superintendent, LAUSD

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February 22, 2007

TO: Each Supervisor

FROM: Bryce Yokomizo, Director

Bruce A. Chernof, MD, Director and Chief Medical Officer
Department of Health Services

**SUBJECT: STATUS REPORT ON THE MEDICAL FIELD TRAINING FOR
CalWORKs PARTICIPANTS (BOARD ORDER #74B – MARCH 7, 2006)**

This is to provide you with the second status report on the Medical Field Training Program for CalWORKs participants.

As background, on March 7, 2006, your Board instructed the Department of Public Social Services to work in concert with the Department of Health Services (DHS), the Los Angeles Community College District, the Los Angeles Unified School District, and the Los Angeles County Office of Education to create a customized program in the medical field for CalWORKs participants that will lead to employment within DHS. Pursuant to your instructions, DHS and DPSS, along with the adult schools, regional occupation centers and programs, and community colleges, identified three positions to focus on: 1) Certified Nursing Attendant (CNA); 2) Pharmacy Technician; and 3) Hospital Custodian. As shared with your Board in the August 2006 report, the Pharmacy Technician was removed from consideration due to new examination and recertification requirements. However, in its place, a radiology technician program is currently under consideration.

Since implementation on August 15, 2006, sixty-one CalWORKs participants have completed the CNA training program. Twenty-one participants initiated the job application process during a targeted application event conducted with DHS, though there are no employment numbers to report as yet. Of the remaining 40, thirty-one participants were notified of the targeted application event but were unable to attend.

However, outreach efforts are in effect to encourage them to apply for CNA positions within DHS. The additional nine participants finalized their training following the targeted application date and our job development staff will work with them to assist with the submission of an application. According to DHS, there are approximately 172 vacancies for CNA positions at DHS so participants who complete the program have an excellent opportunity to be hired.

The number of CalWORKs participants who complete the CNA training is expected to increase in the future, according to information provided by the participating schools. Additionally, as part of continuing outreach efforts, the DHS Office of Nursing Affairs and facility Nurse Recruiters are conducting site visits at various colleges and GAIN offices to provide information on employment opportunities and facilitate the job application process.

Currently, there are three participants enrolled in the Hospital Custodian training program. Once they have successfully completed the 200-hour training, they will be given an opportunity to apply for one of the estimated 40 vacancies in DHS.

In the next status update to your Board in August 2007, we will provide information on the number of participants hired by DHS as a result of this program.

BY:BC:dy

c: Chief Administrative Officer
County Counsel
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
Chancellor, LACCD
Superintendent, LACOE
Assistant Superintendent, LAUSD

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August 8, 2007

TO: Each Supervisor

FROM: Philip L. Browning, Director
Department of Public Social Services

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "P. Browning", written over the "FROM:" line.

Dr. Bruce A. Chernof, MD, Director and Chief Medical Officer
Department of Health Services

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "B. Chernof", written over the name of Dr. Bruce A. Chernof.

**SUBJECT: STATUS REPORT ON THE MEDICAL FIELD TRAINING FOR
CalWORKs PARTICIPANTS (BOARD ORDER #74B – MARCH 7, 2006)**

This is to provide you with the third status report on the Medical Field Training Program for CalWORKs participants.

On March 7, 2006, your Board instructed the Department of Public Social Services (DPSS) to work in concert with the Department of Health Services (DHS), the Los Angeles Community College District, the Los Angeles Unified School District, and the Los Angeles County Office of Education to create a customized program in the medical field for CalWORKs participants that will lead to employment within DHS. Pursuant to your instructions, DHS and DPSS, along with adult schools, regional occupational centers and community colleges, identified three positions to include in the program: 1) Certified Nursing Attendant (CNA); 2) Hospital Custodian; and 3) Pharmacy Technician.

In the February 2007 report, we indicated that 21 participants had initiated the CNA job application process with DHS. Since then, the number of participants who have completed the CNA training and submitted applications has increased to 44. Eight of these 44 applicants have been offered jobs with DHS, pending satisfactory completion of background checks.

To facilitate further CNA hiring, DPSS created a list of all participants who have successfully completed CNA training within the last year. DPSS Job Developers are contacting these participants to schedule any who remain unemployed to initiate an application with DHS.

Three participants are currently enrolled in the 200-hour Hospital Custodian training program in preparation to apply for the existing vacancies in DHS. The Hospital Custodian training program is ongoing with open enrollment and, therefore, recruitment of suitable participants continues.

In our last report, we had indicated that the Radiology Technician program was being considered as a replacement for the Pharmacy Technician training. Persistent challenges and difficulties with creating a viable training and certification program for the latter has prompted the DPSS/DHS coalition with educators to seek a more promising alternative. The major concern revolves around the highly complicated examination, certification and re-certification process.

The central challenge with creating a Radiology Technician program is the relatively lengthy period of classroom training required for the position. Therefore, all academic partners are engaged in seeking to craft a one-year program that will provide students with all the elements and knowledge required for successful performance in the position. To achieve this goal, the program will need to be condensed, while retaining all the required core elements. Academic partners are presently evaluating the feasibility of having an accelerated program that will satisfy requirements for the position.

We will update your Board in February 2008 with the next semi-annual report.

PLB:BC:dy

c: Chief Executive Officer
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Deputy CEO
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February 7, 2008

TO: Each Supervisor

FROM: Philip L. Browning, Director
Department of Public Social Services

Dr. Bruce A. Chernof, MD, Director and Chief Medical Officer
Department of Health Services

**SUBJECT: STATUS REPORT ON THE MEDICAL FIELD TRAINING FOR
CalWORKs PARTICIPANTS (BOARD ORDER #74B – MARCH 7, 2006)**

This is to provide you with the fourth status report on the Medical Field Training Program for CalWORKs participants.

Pursuant to your Board's instructions on March 7, 2006, the Department of Public Social Services (DPSS) continues to work in concert with the Department of Health Services (DHS), the Los Angeles Community College District, the Los Angeles Unified School District, and the Los Angeles County Office of Education to create customized programs in the medical field for CalWORKs participants that will lead to employment within DHS.

In the August 2007 report, we indicated that 44 participants had initiated the Certified Nursing Attendant (CNA) job application process with DHS. Nine of the 44 applicants are now employed at the Los Angeles County-USC Medical Center. The other candidates were unable to successfully complete the examination process.

Although the CNA exam is currently closed, DPSS Job Developers are continuing to contact participants who have completed a CNA training program to be prepared for making more referrals when DHS reopens the exam.

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Four of the nine participants enrolled in the 200-hour Hospital Custodian program completed the training and two of them have already successfully been placed on the DHS Hospital Custodian Certification List. Open enrollment continues for the Hospital Custodian training program, as well as recruitment of suitable participants for the class.

Two additional training programs are being considered for CalWORKs participants: Medical Coders and Ward Unit Clerks. The educators are reviewing the training schedules for these programs, which are targeted to start in the spring of 2008.

We will update your Board in August 2008 with the next semi-annual report.

PLB:BC:dy

c: Chief Executive Officer
County Counsel
Deputy Chief Executive Officer
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
Chancellor, LACCD
Superintendent, LACOE
Assistant Superintendent, LAUSD



PHILIP L. BROWNING
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August 7, 2008

TO: Each Supervisor

FROM: Philip L. Browning, Director
Department of Public Social Services

John F. Schunhoff, Interim Director
Department of Health Services

**SUBJECT: STATUS REPORT ON THE MEDICAL FIELD TRAINING FOR
CalWORKs PARTICIPANTS (BOARD ORDER #74B – MARCH 7, 2006)**

This is to provide you with the fifth status report on the Medical Field Training Program for CalWORKs participants.

Pursuant to your Board's instructions on March 7, 2006, the Department of Public Social Services (DPSS) continues to work with the Department of Health Services (DHS), the Los Angeles Community College District, the Los Angeles Unified School District, and the Los Angeles County Office of Education to create customized programs in the medical field for CalWORKs participants that will lead to employment within DHS.

In the February 2008 report, we indicated that nine of the 44 applicants that applied and completed the Nursing Attendant I (NA I) exam process are now employed at the Los Angeles County-USC Medical Center. This number has not changed. The DHS general NA I exam closed in February 2008. On July 9, 2008, it reopened along with a NA I exam targeted to assist with recruitment in North County. DPSS Job Developers are continuing to contact participants who have completed the Certified Nurses Assistant training program to meet with DHS to begin the application process to fill vacancies in the North County and general areas.

Two participants have been hired as Hospital Custodians. Unfortunately, due to limited interest of GAIN participants in the Hospital Custodian training, this program has been phased out.

Each Supervisor
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In February 2008, we informed you that two additional training programs are being considered for CalWORKs participants, Medical Coders and Ward Unit Clerks. Several issues have developed that have caused the planning group to put recruitment and training of CalWORKs participants for these positions on hold at this time. The central factors include present budget constraint and the resulting hiring freeze at DHS, and that there already exists a surplus of applicants for the Medical Record Coders (Health Information Technicians) and Ward Unit Clerk (Intermediate Clerk/Nursing Unit Clerk) positions. The relatively lengthy training period for these positions, specifically the Medical Coders, is another factor. Therefore, recruitment and training for these items have been postponed. We will continue to evaluate the feasibility of referring CalWORKs participants to apply for these positions.

Under these circumstances, with your Board's concurrence, we are recommending termination of this report, but we will continue collaborating as partner Departments to take advantage of all possible opportunities, regardless of the scale of vacancies.

PLB:JFS:dy

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